

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: M. HIRATANI et al  
Application No.: 09/242,046  
Filed: February 18, 1999  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD  
Art Unit: 2816  
Examiner: S. SHEPHARD CONF. NO. : 9476

**LETTER OF EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.138(d)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 8, 2012

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.138(d), applicants hereby expressly abandon the above-identified application as of the filing date of this paper. This express abandonment is for purposes of the filing of a Request for Refund for the examination fee and excess claim fees. A Request for Refund is being filed concurrently. Accordingly, official recognition of the abandonment of the above-identified application is hereby requested. It is noted that the undersigned is an Attorney of Record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,  
**ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP**

By /Gregory E. Montone/  
Gregory E. Montone  
Reg. No. 28, 141

GEM/dks

1300 North Seventeenth Street  
Suite 1800  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
Telephone No.: (703) 312-6600  
Facsimile No.: (703) 312-6666